

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 SIG-03
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R 110029Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMCONSUL BUKAVU
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY MASERU
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AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY PRAIA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
USICA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S PRESS BRIEFING, JULY 10, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE
SECRETARY'S PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY OFFICIAL VERSION
WILL FOLLOW.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, TO GO TO ANOTHER CONTINENT, HOW DO YOU
NOW VIEW THE PROSPECTS OF ALL-PARTY TALKS ON THE
RHODESIA QUESTION, AND ALSO, HAS THERE BEEN ANY PROGRESS
MADE ON THE NAMIBIA ISSUE IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS?

SECRETARY VANCE: DEALING WITH NAMIBIA FIRST, LET ME SAY
YES, THERE HAS BEEN PROGRESS MADE ON THE NAMIBIA TALKS.
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IT APPEARS THAT THERE ONLY REMAIN TWO QUESTIONS TO BE
RESOLVED. THERE ARE DISCUSSIONS GOING ON TODAY IN LUANDA
IN ANGOLA, AT WHICH WILL BE PRESENT THE MEMBERS OF THE
CONTACT GROUP. AS YOU KNOW, THAT IS A GROUP OF FIVE
WESTERN NATIONS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
AND WHO HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING NEGOTIATIONS IN AN EFFORT TO
TRY AND FIND A SOLUTION TO THE NAMIBIAN PROBLEM FOR SLIGHTLY
OVER A YEAR NOW. THEY WILL BE INVOLVED IN THESE DISCUSSIONS.
AS WILL BE THE SO-CALLED SWAPO ORGANIZATION. AND THERE
WILL ALSO BE PRESENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FRONT LINE
STATES.

WE ALL HOPE THAT OUT OF THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH ARE UNDER
WAY TODAY, AND PROBABLY WILL CONTINUE FOR TOMORROW AND
PERHAPS STILL A THIRD DAY, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO FIND
A FINAL AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD PERMIT US TO GO FORWARD
IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSALS OF
THE CONTACT GROUP. WE DON'T KNOW FOR SURE WHETHER IT
WILL, BUT I WOULD SAY THAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE THERE.

INSOFAR AS RHODESIA IS CONCERNED, THE PROBLEM CONTINUES
TO WORSEN. THE CONFLICT IS INCREASING IN TERMS OF
DEATHS AND FIGHTING. I THINK IT BECOMES CLEARER EVERY

DAY THAT A WAY MUST BE FOUND TO BRING ALL OF THE PARTIES TOGETHER TO WHAT WE HAVE CALLED A "ROUNDTABLE" OR "ALL-PARTIES" MEETING WHERE THEY CAN SIT DOWN TOGETHER AND SEE IF THEY CANNOT REACH AGREEMENT ON HOW TO RESOLVE THE REMAINING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THEM AND TO SET UP AND REACH AGREEMENT UPON A FRAMEWORK FOR PROCEEDING TO ELECTIONS WHICH CAN BRING ABOUT A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE RHODESIA PROBLEM.

WE HAVE REFUSED TO TAKE SIDES WITH ANY OF THE PARTIES ON THE BASIS THAT IF WE ARE TO BE EFFECTIVE IN TERMS OF BRINGING THE PARTIES TOGETHER WE SHOULD NOT CHOOSE AMONG THEM. BUT WHAT WE SHOULD DO IS TO TRY AND BRING THEM TOGETHER SO THAT THEY, IN NEGOTIATIONS AMONG THEM-
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SELVES, CAN REACH AGREEMENT AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO.

AS YOU KNOW, I THINK, WE HAVE AMBASSADOR LOW AND THE BRITISH HAVE MR. GRAHAM IN THE AREA RIGHT NOW. THEY ARE MOVING BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN VARIOUS COUNTRIES THERE TRYING TO BRING THE PARTIES TO AGREEMENT ON AN ALL-PARTIES MEETING, AND THEY WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN THERE TO SEE IF THIS CANNOT BE ACCOMPLISHED.
VANCE

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